

Reviewer 2 v.1

Comments to the Author

This is a well-written manuscript. The manuscript's topic is relevant.

Comments:

Page 12, line 39-45: the authors should assess the relationship between E-RS:COPD total score and sub-domains and rescue medication use. This would clarify the potential utility of rescue medication use as an indicator of symptom control in patients with COPD.

Another study limitation should be mentioned: the EMAX study is a 24-week study, while maintenance pharmacological treatment of patients with COPD is expected to last longer than that. Result interpretation should be limited to this time frame.

In the introduction, I would suggest to mention the mechanistic basis of the greater bronchodilating effect of umeclidinium/vilanterol fixed dose combination as compared with either bronchodilator alone (Ther Adv Respir Dis 2018;12:1753466618760779).